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SOME TASMANIAN BEES.

By T. D. A. COCKERELL.

I GIVE a list of the bees recently collected in Tasmania by Mr. F. M. Littler, and kindly forwarded to me by Mr. Walter W. Froggatt. Other specimens, with the same numbers, have been retained in Australia.

Paracolletes marginatus. Smith, 245 c (2331) and 244 c (2332). The scape is black in both sexes; in males from Victoria it is red. Bridport, Oct. 26th-30th, 1913.

Paracolletes launcestonensis, n. sp.

236 c. Launceston, Jan. 25th, 1914.

♀. Length about 8 mm.; head, thorax and legs black, the small joints of tarsi reddish; abdomen very dark greenish, the hind margins of first two segments appearing narrowly ferruginous, but at least at sides of first segment the colour is actually on extreme base of the one following; tegulæ and extreme base of anterior wings bright apricot colour; wings fuliginous, darkest in the costo-apical region; stigma large, black, nervures dark fuscous; flagellum wholly dark. Pubescence scanty; sides of face and cheeks with thin white hair; hair of vertex erect, pale, slightly brownish; clypeus shining, sparsely punctured; supraclypeal area duller, elevated, not punctured; front with a dull sericeous surface; anterior corners of mesothorax with a little pale ochreous hair (slight approach to condition of *humerosus* and *irroratus*); tubercles densely fringed with white hair; sides of metathorax with long white hair; mesothorax dullish, with sparse feeble punctures; postscutellum dull and rough, contrasting with the shining scutellum; area of metathorax large, bounded by an impressed line which is gently curved outward and is not beaded; scopa of hind tibiæ white, dark fuscous above basally; b. n. meeting t. m.; first r. n. joining second s. m. a little beyond middle, second joining third s. m. at apical corner; hair at apex of abdomen fuscous, not very abundant; under side of abdomen with curled white hairs. By the dark wings, this resembles *P. obscuripennis*, Ckll., but is easily separated by the tegulæ, metathorax, &c.

Callomelitta littleri, n. sp.

242 c (2324). Launceston, Jan. 25th, 1914.

♀. Length about 9 mm.; anterior wing 7.5. Similar to *C. picta*, Sm., but smaller; mesothorax, tubercles and axillæ terracotta red,

but pleura entirely black; tegulæ bright apricot colour; anterior femora and tibiæ bright red, but their tarsi dark; abdomen black, wholly without blue tints; wings very dark; area of metathorax with coarse ridges.

Prosopis perhumilis, Ckll., var. *a*.

240 c (2333). Bridport, Oct. 26th–30th, 1913. Two.

♂. Length about $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm.; supraclypeal mark very small; at least half of hind basitarsi light.

Parasphecodes rhodopterus, n. sp.

243 c (2325). Launceston, Jan. 18th, 1914.

♀. Length about 8 mm.; rather robust; head, thorax, legs and antennæ black, the last joint of flagellum very faintly reddish; tegulæ rufotestaceous, dark at base; wings very strongly reddened, stigma and nervures dull red; abdomen chestnut-red, not very bright, first segment with a large black spot on basal middle, and a transverse very broad-triangular discal mark, segments beyond the third suffused with blackish. Clypeus with strong punctures; mesothorax and scutellum extremely densely and finely punctured; area of metathorax semilunar, with rather fine regular longitudinal ridges; posterior truncation without prominent upper corners; first r. n. joining the rather narrow second s. m. at apex; outer r. n. and t. c. thin but dark; hair on inner side of middle tarsi bright orange-ferruginous, but on inner side of hind tarsi paler; outer side of hind tibiæ and basitarsi with fuscous hair; first two abdominal segments dull, with extremely fine punctures all over; third shining, with scattered irregular very fine punctures; third segment and beyond with fuscous hair, only clearly seen in side view.

Allied to *P. taluchis*, Sm., but flagellum and legs black.

Parasphecodes rufotegularis, n. sp.

235 c (2556). Launceston, Jan. 25th, 1914.

♂. Length 8.5 mm.; black, with the broad apical margin of first abdominal segment (extending basad at sides), and the second and third segments entirely, very bright ferruginous; labrum, mandibles and about apical half of clypeus (with an angular median projection into the black) light yellow; antennæ very long, black; tegulæ bright ferruginous; wings slightly dusky, nervures and stigma fuscous; knees, anterior tibiæ (except a blackish mark on outer side), middle tibiæ at apex, and all the tarsi, ferruginous. Head and thorax with greyish white hair; front dull; mesothorax and scutellum very finely punctured, the scutellum and posterior part of mesothorax shining; area of metathorax rather large, semilunar, glistening, with quite irregular rugæ producing a subreticulate effect; first r. n. meeting second t. c.; abdomen with very fine punctures. This is too different from the last to be its male, the metathorax especially being quite different. There is some resemblance to *P. stuchila*, Sm., but that has the area of metathorax rugose-granular, and the tibiæ ferruginous.

Halictus cognatus, Smith. 237 c (2323). Male. Launceston, Jan. 25th, 1914.

H. lanarius, Smith. 239 c (2335). Female. Devonport, Nov. 2nd-5th, 1913.

Halictus hæmatopus, n. sp. 238 c (2326). Launceston.

♂. Length about 6 mm.; black, with the tibiæ, tarsi and apical part of femora bright ferruginous, the middle tibiæ with a faint dusky stripe on outer side; labrum and mandibles dark, but clypeus with a broad pale yellow band, with an angular projection into the black above; antennæ black, the flagellum very long and crenulate; abdomen broad, finely punctured, without hair-bands or patches. Looks at first sight exactly like *H. sanguinipes*, Ckll., from Victoria, but differs as follows: abdomen comparatively broad at base, not claviform; tegulæ light orange-ferruginous; apical field of wings dusky. It is even closer to *H. bicingulatus*, Sm., differing by the wholly black flagellum, the large amount of black on femora, the longer stigma and the shining, more distinctly punctured abdomen. It could be regarded as an insular subspecies of *H. bicingulatus*. My male *bicingulatus* is from Brisbane; it is possible that specimens from the coast opposite Tasmania would more nearly approximate to the Tasmanian bee.

Halictus littleri, n. sp. 231 c. Launceston.

♀. Length about 8.5 mm.; black, including antennæ and tarsi; bands of greyish-white tomentum at bases of abdominal segments, reduced to a patch on each side of second; mesothorax very coarsely punctured; area of metathorax large, concave, finely striate; tegulæ piceous; wings dusky, second s. m. very large and broad. Close to *H. circumdatus*, Ckll., from Victoria, but differing thus: clypeus rough, more closely punctured, less shining; vertex and mesothorax with conspicuous black hair; middle of mesothorax more densely punctured; tegulæ much darker; wings greyer, not at all yellowish, with darker nervures; area of metathorax much duller, the striæ less regular; outer side of hind tibiæ with much black hair. The second abdominal segment is finely punctured, except the broad apical part, which is minutely lineolate, with only scattered rudimentary punctures; a useful character to separate the species from *H. gilesi*, Ckll., and *H. asperithorax*, Ckll. The front is microscopically grooved, the grooves crossed at intervals by ridges.

Nomia submærens, n. sp.

246 c (2334). Bridport, Oct. 26th-30th, 1913.

♀. Like *N. mærens*, Sm., but metathorax different, the transverse cross-striated channel much narrower in middle, its lower margin straight except at sides, where it rather abruptly bends upwards; wings shorter, nervures darker; tegulæ anteriorly with a pale marginal spot. This could be regarded as an insular subspecies of *N. mærens*.

Exoneura hamulata, Ckll., var. *a*.
234 c. Launceston, Jan. 25th, 1914.

♀. With the broad face of *E. hamulata*; clypeal mark evanescent, all but the upper part dark reddish; wings strongly reddened, stigma clear amber; hair on outer side of hind tibiæ ferruginous. If the characters are constant, this will deserve a subspecific name. A specimen from Victoria has equally red wings.

I gave a list of Tasmanian bees in Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, xxxvii., p. 599. Since that time the list has been considerably increased, so that with the present contribution it includes *Prosopis*, seven species; *Binghamiella*, one; *Euryglossa*, three; *Paracolletes*, ten; *Callomelitta*, two; *Halictus*, sixteen; *Parasphcodes*, thirteen; *Nomia*, one; *Megachile*, three; *Exoneura*, three. This is in striking contrast to the very poor bee-fauna of New Zealand; but while it seems certain that New Zealand cannot produce nearly as many bees as Tasmania, it remains probable that careful collecting would considerably augment the present short list. The large proportion of new forms collected by Mr. Littler shows that the Tasmanian bee-fauna is still quite insufficiently known.

THREE WEEKS IN DAUPHINY.

BY H. ROWLAND-BROWN, M.A., F.E.S.

(PLATE VII.)

(Concluded from p. 286.)

(ii.) *Le Lauteret*.

For three whole days, from July 21st to the 23rd, it continued to rain or snow upon the Col de Lauteret (6950 ft.), with scarcely an hour's intermission, by which time the lower valley of Oisans was under water, and half the country round Grenoble as well. The weather changed suddenly on the 24th, with a rude north wind, and though the skies above were clear, and the sun shone brightly, it was bitterly cold. Not until then was I able to collect, choosing the road up to the Col de Galibier as less exposed to the weather. The flowers, which at all events had suffered little from the severe drenching, were even more magnificent than at La Grave; and, at what seems a surprisingly late date for them, the white narcissus, *N. poeticus* var. *radiiflorus*, was still in its first pride, together with the large white Anemone, *Anemone alpina*, and the handsome lofty *Orobis luteus*, which when going out of flower becomes deep orange. *A. simplonia* was now almost common. In the grass and herbage *Erebia pharte* again turned up in swarms, with tiny *E. ceto*, rare *E. epiphron* var. *cassiope*, and